



Borough of Kendal.

---

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1940.

---

KENDAL:

TITUS WILSON AND SON, PRINTERS.

---

1941.





Borough of Kendal.

---

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1940.

---

KENDAL:

TITUS WILSON AND SON, PRINTERS.

1941.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Kendal.*

SIR, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for the year 1940.

The Ministry of Health has issued a Circular stressing economy in the matter of paper and printing and states that these reports should be confined to essential and urgent matters which have affected Public Health.

It is in accordance with these instructions that I have compiled this Report.

Should you desire any further particulars, I shall be glad to supply the same on your request.

I have the honour to be,

Sir, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. BARON COCKILL,

Medical Officer of Health.

23rd June, 1941.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1940.

Registrar General's estimate of Resident population

mid 1940           ...       ...       ...       ...       ...       19,000

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

Live Births:—	Total.	M.	F.	
Legitimate       ...	221	114	107	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 12.6.
Illegitimate     ...	18	12	6	
Birth Rate: England and Wales			...	14.6.
Still Births     ...       ...	8	4	4	Rate per 1,000 total live and still Births, 32.4.
Deaths           ...       ...	252	119	133	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident pop- ulation, 13.3.
Death Rate: England and Wales			...	14.3.
Deaths from Puerperal Causes:—				
			Deaths.	
Puerperal Sepsis   ...       ...	...	...	Nil	...
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	Nil	...
Total           ...       ...	...	...	Nil	...
Maternal Mortality Rate: England and Wales	...			2.16
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—				
All Infants per 1,000 live births   ...       ...	...	...	...	47.6
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...			51.3
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...			Nil
Infantile Death Rate: England and Wales	...	...		55
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	27
„       „   Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil
„       „   Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	1
„       „   Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	1

The largest numbers of deaths from any one cause were:—

Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	52
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	...	32
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	27

#### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

In consequence of the increase of attendances, a second clinic was opened each week to meet the needs of evacuees.

#### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

Number of times the Centre has been open	..	..	..	61
„ „ babies under 1 year attending	..	..	147	} 347
„ „ children 1-5 years attending	..	..	200	
„ „ attendances of babies	..	..	1130	} 3656
„ „ „ children	..	..	1999	
„ „ „ mothers	..	..	227	
„ „ „ expectant mothers	..	..	256	
„ „ „ post-natal mothers	..	..	44	
Number of mothers admitted to Hospital under the Maternity and Child Welfare Act	..	..	..	36

#### SUMMARY OF NURSE METCALFE'S WORK:

First visits to babies under 1 year	..	..	..	229	} 2458
Subsequent visits	..	..	..	1085	
Visits to children 1-5 years	..	..	..	853	
First visits to expectant mothers	..	..	..	38	
Subsequent visits	..	..	..	79	
Stillbirth enquiries	..	..	..	6	
Infant Death enquiries	..	..	..	15	
Visits to Institutions	..	..	..	19	
Attendance at Centre	..	..	..	58	
„ „ Mothers Clinic	..	..	..	16	
„ „ Immunization Clinic	..	..	..	5	
Lessons at Rose Cottage and Examinations	..	..	..	55	

#### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There has been a decrease in the number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age, namely 12 as against 18 in the previous year.

The Mothers' Clinic has had 16 sessions, and, whilst serving a useful purpose is apparently not found to be very necessary; there were only 9 new cases and total attendances were 20.



ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH IN INFANTS.

3	Prematurity
1	Congenital Diseases
4	Cerebral Hæmorrhage
1	Pneumonia
1	Marasmus
1	Convulsions
1	Bronchitis
12	Total

AGE INCIDENCE OF INFANTILE MORTALITY

8	Under 1 week
—	2 weeks
—	3 weeks
—	4 weeks
8	Total under 1 month
2	1—3 months
—	3—6 months
1	6—9 months
1	9—12 months
12	Total under 1 year

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### WATER.

The total rainfall at Fisher Tarn was 44.91 inches.

Monthly bacteriological examinations of the public supplies have been made and these have been satisfactory.

There have been no extensions in Housing, Water Supplies or Sewerage and the system of Public Cleansing remains the same. In accordance with the Defence Regulations 68 AA, a Survey of unfit houses was made in October and 9 of these were made sufficiently fit for habitation, but no temporary licences were granted during the year.

There has been a certain amount of overcrowding owing to the influx of evacuees, but any gross cases of such have been satisfactorily dealt with. The number of evacuees has varied from time to time but is estimated to usually be in the neighbourhood of 4,000.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### MILK.

105 samples were taken from dealers who deliver milk in Kendal. Details of analyses of these are as follows:—

#### 1. GOOD.

Samples complying with both tests	...	...	36 or 34%
-----------------------------------	-----	-----	-----------

#### 2. MODERATE.

Samples complying with one test only	...	...	30 or 28%
--------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----------

#### 3. BAD.

Samples which complied with neither test	...	39 or 37%
--	-----	-----------

Compared with the figures of last year the results show some improvement.

On January 15th, the Public Slaughter House was taken over by the Ministry of Food and all private slaughter houses in South Westmorland, Windermere and Lakes Area were closed: 29,063 animals were slaughtered: 64 total carcasses and 856 other parts were condemned for tuberculosis. For other causes there were 187 total carcasses and 2,855 other parts condemned.

Of home killed meat from other sources, 116 carcasses were desposited for distribution and 25,003 carcasses or portions of imported meat.

A certain small amount of meat and tinned foods in shops also came in for condemnation owing chiefly to decomposition.



## ADULTERATION, ETC., & CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

This work is carried out by Mr. W. H. Roberts, M.Sc., F.I.C., of Liverpool.

The County Council has delegated to the Borough the functions of procuring samples for analysis or examination.

101 samples of food were taken for analysis, as detailed below:—

Article.	No. of Samples.	Results.	Remarks.
Milk .. ..	42	Genuine	
„ .. ..	2	Deficient in Fat	Producers warned.
„ .. ..	2	„	Legal Proceedings, Ven- dor fined £2 & £4 respectively.
Butter .. ..	6	Genuine	
Sausages .. ..	19	„	
„ .. ..	4	Deficient in Meat as Grade A	One Vendor fined £2.
Brawn .. ..	5	Genuine	
Margarine .. ..	2	„	
Coffee .. ..	10	„	
Tinned Cream .. ..	1	„	
Cocoa .. ..	1	„	Poor in fat.
Baking Powder .. ..	1	Not Genuine	
Egg Powder .. ..			
substitute .. ..	1	Genuine	
Cornflower .. ..	1	„	
Tinned Peas .. ..	3	„	
Milk Powder .. ..	1		
	101		

In the milks the highest fat content was 4.2% and the highest non-fatty solids content was 9.03%.

The average percentage of milk fats and non-fatty solids in all milks (genuine and non-genuine) was 3.62% and 8.8% respectively.

### PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM) REGULATIONS, 1912.

	No. of samples examined for presence of preservative.	No. of samples in which preservative was found.
Milk ...	46	Nil
Cream ...	1	Nil

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The continued good fortune of freedom from notifiable disease was again present in spite of the advent of evacuees. There were 20 cases of Scarlet Fever, 2 of which occurred in evacuees and one had contracted the disease outside the Area but developed it within; 14 cases of Diphtheria of which 6 evacuees were the sufferers; Puerperal Pyrexia occurred in 4 cases; 2 of which were removed to Lancaster Isolation Hospital; 14 cases of Erysipelas, 2 of which were Military cases and 1 each of Pneumonia, Relapsing Fever, Paratyphoid and Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Cerebro-spinal Meningitis was notified in 7 instances, a decided increase on any previous year; there were 2 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis. The only fatal cases amongst these were 1 case of Diphtheria and 2 of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.

Measles occurred in 222 instances and Whooping Cough in 24; there was one fatal case in the former of these.

Whilst the notification of Measles and Whooping Cough does not assist the control of these diseases, the Ministry of Health desires the fullest data indicating the incidence and distribution of them.

The Isolation Hospital has also admitted 15 cases of Scabies.

Artificial Immunization against Diphtheria has been continued through the elementary schools and the Education Authority, A.P.T. is the prophylactic which has been used.

Up to date Isolation Hospital accommodation is still lacking.

A special hostel has been established at Hincaster House for evacuee problem children, not suitable for billeting in private houses.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES TABLE.

DISEASE.	Total.	Ages.										Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
		—1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	65—
Scarlet Fever ..	20	—	1	3	2	1	7	4	1	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria ..	14	—	—	—	1	2	4	2	1	2	1	1	1
Paratyphoid fever ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Erysipelas ..	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	5	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ..	7	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	3	—	—	1	2
Relapsing Fever ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	222	9	9	14	20	25	74	17	28	22	3	—	1
Whooping Cough ..	24	4	5	5	2	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	309	14	15	22	26	36	87	24	37	31	7	8	4

## TUBERCULOSIS TABLE.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non- Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non- Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	3	3	—	1	—	—	—	1
15	3	6	1	—	—	4	—	—
25	4	6	—	1	2	2	—	—
35	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	4	1	—	—	3	1	—	—
55	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
65	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTAL	18	18	1	2	5	9	—	1

There were 36 pulmonary cases notified of which 6 had contracted the disease elsewhere but came to reside in the Area Of non-pulmonary cases there was 1 each of meninges, abdomen and bones and the latter of these had been contracted prior to coming into the District. Death occurred in 9 pulmonary and the meningeal case.





